

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15-18, 20-22, 27, 31, 32 and 34-41 are now present in this application. Claims 1 and 21 are independent.

Claims 8, 10, 11, 14, 19, 33, 42 and 43 have been canceled, and claims 1, 12, 18 and 22 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6-22, 27 and 31-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otsuka (US 2003/0021593) in view of Lamkin et al (US 2006/0117344).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of steps in a method for controlling a playback operation in a media player device including receiving a user input for selecting one of N operating states of the media player device, each of the N operating states including first and second coincident operational modes of the media player device, the first coincident operational mode including reproducing audio/video (A/V) data recorded on a recording medium according to one of X operating states, the second coincident operational mode including processing additional data recorded on the recording medium or provided from a remote content provider according to one of Y operating states, where $N = X \times Y$, the additional data being associated with the A/V data, and operating the media player device in the one of the N operating states in response to the user input. The N operating states include at least a state of reproducing the A/V data from the recording medium in the first coincident operational mode together with displaying additional data in the second coincident operational mode in a synchronized state. The N operating states are discriminatively defined on the basis of relations among operating modes. The N operating states further include at least a state of discontinuing the playback of A/V data and displaying additional data received from the recording medium or the remote content

provider in association with the A/V data, if the first operational mode is in a stop state and the second operational mode is in a play state and the displaying step is capable of displaying the additional data in full screen mode without A/V data.

Applicants respectfully submit that this combination of steps as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Otsuka and Lamkin et al.

The Examiner states that Otsuka at FIG. 2B describes “the plurality of operating states comprise at least one of N operating states based on said first and second operational modes, the first operational mode has X playback states associated with reproducing A/V data recorded on the recording medium, the second operational mode has Y operation states associated with processing additional data recorded on a recording medium or provided by the remote content provider, where $N = X \times Y$ ”.

Further, the Examiner states that Lamkin at FIG. 5, paragraphs 0044, 0071-0075 describes “N operating states include at least a state of reproducing the A/V data from the recording medium in the first operational mode together with displaying additional data in the second operational mode in a synchronized state”, and at FIG. 5, paragraph 0148 and FIG. 10, paragraph 0154 describes “N operating states are discriminatively defined on the basis of relations among operating modes of the recording medium”.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, that “the N operating states further include at least a state of discontinuing the playback of A/V data and displaying additional data received from the recording medium or the remote content provider in association with the A/V data, if the first operational mode is in a stop state and the second operational mode is in a play state and the displaying step is capable of displaying the additional data in full screen mode without A/V data”. No prior art, including Otsuka and Lamkin, discloses or suggest this feature. Therefore, the claims define the invention over the prior art.

Claim 22 has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 to present claims of varying scope. Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of elements and steps as set forth in independent claims 1 and 22 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including

Otsuka and Lamkin, for the reasons explained above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

With regard to dependent claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15-18, 20-21, 27, 31, 32 and 34-41, Applicants submit that these claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1 or 22 which are allowable for the reasons set forth above, and therefore claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15-18, 20-21, 27, 31, 32 and 34-41 are allowable. In addition, these claims recite further limitations which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references. Reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

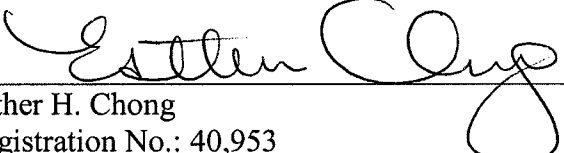
In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Christopher J. McDonald, Registration No. 41,533, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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